

REMARKS

Prior to this amendment, claims 1-45 were pending. New claims 46-50 have been added to define further aspects of Applicants' invention. Claims 46-49 were previously presented in related U.S. Patent Appl. Ser. No. 09/934,947. Support for these claims is found throughout the application, and it is respectfully asserted that no new matter will be added to this application by entry of these amendments. Entry of this amendment is requested prior to examination on the merits.

If a telephone conference would facilitate prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

AUTHORIZATION

No petitions or additional fees are believed due for this amendment and/or any accompanying submissions. However, to the extent that any additional fees and/or petition are required (including a petition for extension of time), Applicants hereby petition the Commissioner to grant such petition(s), and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees, including any fees which may be required for such petition(s), or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500 (Order No. 1232-4756US1). **A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.**

Respectfully submitted,
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